



# KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

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## MINUTES

### **KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

April 3, 2018

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PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:02 p.m. – 5:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Tracy Hall, Ron Kendall, Stephanie Moore, Mike Quinn, Dale Shugars, Roger Tuinier, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner McGraw

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, Lisa Henthorn, Amanda Morse, Thom Canny, Megan Buwalda, Jeff Getting, Lotta Jarnefelt, Pat Crowley, Rick Fuller, Tim Snow, Dina Sutton

Chair Moore convened the Committee of the Whole at 4:02 p.m.

1. Review of Disbursements - Ms. Amanda Morse

Ms. Amanda Morse indicated disbursements totaled \$2,104,819.33.

2. Resolution Declaring April Child Abuse Prevention Month - Chair Moore, Vice Chair Shugars

Chair Moore and Vice Chair Shugars presented a resolution declaring April Child Abuse Prevention month.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the resolution as it was different from last year's version.

Ms. Moored indicated the resolution was received by CAN as presented.

Commissioner Gisler stated he had no issue with the resolution as presented.

Chair Moore indicated this would be on the next agenda for adoption.

3. Opioid Presentation - Chair Moore, Commissioners Kendall & Rogers

Chair Moore indicated along with herself and Commissioner Rogers had met concerning the opioid issue.

Commissioner Rogers stated Administration along with Commissioners had a robust conversation concerning the opioid issue. She indicated physicians had been prescribing these medications more frequently. She indicated there were several municipalities that were pursuing litigation and for her it was an ethical issue vs. a monetary issue.

Commissioner Kendall stated this issue was a new issue. He stated he was unsure if litigation was the route to take. He indicated there was plenty of blame to take and was not just with the manufacturers and distributors. He would like additional information.

Commissioner Seals stated veterans had used opioids for a long time and had to be costing the county money. He hoped the county could find a resolution and pursue the answers needed.

Commissioner Hall stated it was an important issue. She stated it had a human life aspect but also an economic impact. She stated she felt the county needed to explore answers.

Commissioner Tuinier stated opioids was a big issue and felt the FDA should be regulating these more. He indicated there were many other drugs that caused death and felt the county needed to look at meth, heroine, etc. He stated he had mixed feelings about pursuing litigation.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Wordelman indicated he would like to be involved and at the table.

Commissioner Kendall stated the plaintiffs and defendants had to come to a resolution prior to settlement as there would not be fact finding. He stated he would like additional information from community partners.

Commissioner Rogers stated she didn't see many disadvantages with the county exploring litigation.

Commissioner Tuinier stated there was a lot of unanswered questions.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Moored indicated Administration was looking for direction from the Board. She indicated there were many layers to this project.

Chair Moore stated she was supportive with moving forward with MAC's recommendation and pursuing litigation.

Vice Chair Shugars indicated he did not support moving forward with litigation.

Chair Moore indicated it was the will of the Board to move forward with associating the county with a lawsuit.

4. Resolution Declaring April 2018 Sexual Assault Awareness Month - Commissioner Rogers

Commissioner Rogers stated it was her wish that the Board would approve this resolution at the next meeting.

5. Resolution Honoring the 40th Anniversary of Residential Opportunities, Inc. - Vice Chair Shugars, Commissioner McGraw

Vice Chair Shugars stated it was his hope the Board would pass the resolution at the next meeting.

6. Any other items

There were no other items.

7. Closed Session

There was no closed session.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson Moore adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

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Stephanie Moore, Chairperson  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners